

REMARKS

The present Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.312 is submitted in accordance with MPEP §714.16 and 37 C.F.R. §1.312.

Claims 100 - 113 and 116 are cancelled herein from the application without prejudice. No new matter has been introduced, and the scope of the remaining claims is not changed. Claims 1, 9, 11, 14 - 15, 17 - 18, 20 - 24, 28, 90, and 99 remain in the application.

Claims 1, 9, 11, 14 - 15, 17 - 18, 20 - 24, 28, 90, and 99, which will remain in the application after entry of this Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.312, are method claims. Accordingly, the patent which will issue from this application will contain only method claims.

MPEP §714.16 states “After the Notice of Allowance has been mailed, ... [the Examiner] has authority to enter amendments submitted after Notice of Allowance of an application which embody merely the correction of formal matters ... or the cancellation of claims from the application, without forwarding to the supervisory patent examiner for approval.” (emphasis added).

This Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.312 is submitted before payment of the issue fee, as required by MPEP §714.16 and 37 C.F.R. §1.312.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment Under 37

C.F.R. §1.312. The Examiner is respectfully requested to phone the Applicants' undersigned Attorney, if necessary, to discuss this request.

Respectfully submitted,

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